

# Emerald Necklace Garden Club

## April 2025 Newsletter

### 2025 General Meeting Schedule \*

April 10	October 9
May 9 (Friday)	November 13
June 12	December 11
September 11	

### 2025 ENGC Board Meetings\*\*

April 7	October 6
May 5	November 10
June 9	December 8
September 8	

\* General Meetings begin 9:15AM at Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church. 9201 Brecksville Rd., Brecksville, unless noted.

\*\*Board Meetings are the Monday before the 2nd Thursday of the month. Meetings start at 10AM, same location, unless noted.

### Save the Dates:

May 8 - GCO District Meeting  
(RSVP by April 19)  
May 9 - Plant Sale set up  
May 10 - Plant Sale  
June 8 - Booth at St. Basil's, 12PM  
June 12 - Field Trip (Mulberry Herb Farm)  
June 17-19 - GCO Convention, Canton  
August 11 - Pressed Flowers Craft Outreach  
Brecksville Library, 7PM  
September 28 - Fall Fest  
November 17 - Youth Story Time and Craft  
Brecksville Library, 4PM

### President's Message - Nathalie Petri

Happy Spring! I had a pleasant surprise as I was cleaning out one of my garden beds this past week - a frog! Now I see frogs in my garden quite often but in the warmer months. Plus it was in a very dry area under leaves. I don't know what type of frog this was but it was a delight and a surprise.

I recently read an article about making a bloom calendar. The writer said it helps in learning what times of year need more blooms in your garden along with highlighting plants with very short or long bloom times. They suggest dividing up the month into three 10-day periods - early (1-10) days, middle (11-20), and late (21-28+) - rather than the full four weeks. You can do this on paper, or in Excel. Once you have a bloom calendar you may find better color combinations to put together or learn of gaps where there is nothing in bloom.

SPECIES	JANUARY			FEBRUARY		
	E	M	L	E	M	L
Hamamelis virginiana						
Claytonia virginica						
Carex albicans						
Narcissus pseudonarcissus						
Narcissus tazetta						
Glandularia canadensis						
Glandularia canadensis 'Kathy's Kandy'						
Prunus persica						
Rhus aromatica						
Erythronium albidum						
Narcissus x odoros						
Fothergilla milleri 'Redneck Nation'						
Spiraea prunifolia 'Plena'						
Magnolia 'Susan'						
Xanthorhiza simplicissima						
Ipheion uniflorum						

<https://meristemhorticulture.com/planted/bloom-calendar>

Nathalie

## 1st Vice Presidents - Jane Petrie and Marlene Winter - April Program

### **Program for Thursday, April 10th**

We are very pleased to host the very well known Bill Hendricks.

Bill has traveled the world, written books on plant material, taught, designed gardens and now is an advisor to Petitti Gardens.

Although there is much he could share, his topic will be limited to "Using Succulents in our Gardens".

Another opportunity to bring a friend.

Although our meetings begin at 9:15AM our program starts at 11:00AM.

There will be no meeting in May, but our June program will be a road trip to Mulberry Herb Farm!!!

Details later.

See you soon,

*Jane and Marlene W.*

PS: Visit CBG April 5th and 6th for the Midwest Cactus and Succulent Society annual show and sale.

## Membership - Maureen Michal

### **Meet Our Newest Member!**

**Renee Buszta** : Renee is a retired nurse. Earlier in her career she worked with special needs patients. Later in her nursing career she started her own company (which she had for 20 years) helping/teaching nursing students to be able to pass the nursing state boards and license exams! She is very involved as a volunteer with the boy scouts. Her grand daughter (yes, girls can be part of boy scouts as of 4 years ago) is an eagle scout and is wanting to get involved in conservation. She is hoping some of the scouts can be involved in the rain garden by building and setting up bee hives for mason bees (great pollinators) in the rain garden. Renee loves the outdoors; camping and working in her yard which includes a vegetable garden and bird sanctuary. As a fun new hobby she is learning to play mahjong!

## Horticulture - Pat Cotsman

April is the time to plant seeds of half-hardy annuals. These plants usually need some chilly temps to break dormancy and germinate. They include cleome, poppies, calendula, alyssum, sweet peas and larkspur. In your vegetable garden you can plant onions, leeks, shallots, spinach, lettuce, peas, and members of the cabbage family. These like cooler weather to grow well.

Remove the old leaves from your German Iris. ( These are the ones with the large rhizomes above the soil) Iris borers lay their eggs on the leaves in the Fall. In April they hatch and the larvae burrow through the leaves and into the rhizome to feed on it. This can lead to rot and can kill your plants. If you have seen borer damage in the past you can also spray with an insecticide twice a week to 10 days apart in April.

Check your beds for plants that have been pushed out of the soil by freeze and thaw cycles. If you find any push them back into the soil or cover roots with more soil to prevent damage to the plant. Weeds also can be pushed out of soil so pull them out and discard them in trash. Grasses that have gotten into your beds can easily be pulled in moist soil so yank them out too. Getting rid of weeds before they set seed will make your life much easier.

Remember not to remove the leaves from your ephemerals (tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, etc.) until they are mostly yellow. They need these leaves to make food for next year's flowers.

If you buy perennials in early Spring, they may have come from southern areas and suffer if we get a sudden cold spell. Be prepared to cover them if temps. dips into the 20's.

Remember to plant herbs like dill, fennel, parsley and other members of the umbelliferae family to act as hosts for Swallowtail butterfly larvae. Bees also love these plants.

Happy Easter,

*Pat*

## **Sustainable is Attainable!**

**Bring your own coffee cup to  
ENG C meetings!**

### Cleveland Botanical Garden/Holden Forests and Gardens - Jane Petrie

There is still time to register for the Affiliate Day program on April 17th at 9:30AM. The cost is \$15 and includes free parking.

Guest Speaker: Scott Beuerlein of the Cincinnati Zoo on the topic "Favorite Plants from Favorite Gardens"

Do take the time to read notices from CBG ... SOOO much going on.

*Jane Petrie*

### **WE ARE CELEBRATING NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK**

The recommendation that we celebrate National Gardening Week this year has been well received. Bryan Stowe, a Brecksville horticulturalist, will do a presentation on gardening at Brecksville library community room on Thursday, June 5th at 11:15 AM. Community and ENGC members are encouraged to attend this free event. This is a perfect opportunity to engage a gardening aficionado non-member in conversation and give them one of your ENGC business cards! There will also be a display in the library with photos of ENGC activities and events along with membership information.

On Friday, June 6th in the morning, ENGC members will help South Suburban Montessori students in first through third grades plant a marigold, learn about how these plants benefit a garden, and listen to a story about children in the garden. The marigold planting will be repeated on Sunday, June 8th at ENGC's table at St. Basil's Family Picnic, Noon to 2 PM. A few more volunteers are needed to help with these two events. Please let Pauline or Sheila know if you would like to help with either.

In the next issue of the Brecksville Bulletin there will be an article about ENGC's celebration of National Garden Week and the NGC poster. Publicity will also be in local media. A proclamation from Brecksville's Mayor is pending.

### **Happy Birthday**

**Shirley Basista**

### **Youth Committee - Sheila Humphrey**

There are two events planned with the Brecksville Library this year:

*Pressed Flowers*; August 11th, 7-8PM.

It will be for up to 25 people over the age of seven. We will make cards and book markers with pressed flowers. We have done this before and it was fun.

*Fun with Pumpkins*; Monday, November 17th 4-5PM

A pumpkin painting project for up to 20 kids. While the pumpkins are drying, we will have a story time with a pumpkin or Thanksgiving theme.

A third project will be at St. Basil's on June 8th. We will have a booth planting marigolds with a handout from 12-2PM.

Sign up sheets will be passed at the next meeting for volunteers!

### **Sunshine News - Shirley Grispino**

If you are aware of any sunshine news throughout the year, please contact our 2025 Corresponding Secretary, Shirley Grispino.

Deepest sympathy and prayers for **Cheryl Spieth**, a former member. She passed away in February.

A Thank You note was received from **Joan C.** for the get well cards and Gerber Daisy.

Prayers for **Lisa S.** waiting for results on a Thyroid biopsy.

### **Did You Know ...**

Over 500 plant species depend on bats to pollinate their flowers? Some of these include species of mango, banana, durian, guava and agave. The pollination of plants by bats is called chiropterophily.

Insect eating bats are fantastic pest control. A single bat can eat between 6000 and 8000 mosquitos in a single night.

## Around Town

Fun classes, workshops and good deals offered around town. Please check in advance for any class pre-registration requirements. Find one? Send it in!

*Free Native Meadowscape Book* (in online book format) from Indigenous Landscapes through their website

*Drop-by: April Fools' Scavenger Hunt*; Apr 1, 1PM; Brecksville Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks

*Meadow City Nursery plant pre-order* (native plants) beginning Apr 5, 10AM

*Live Stakes Workshop*; Apr 5, 11AM; Sagamore Hills Township, Summit County Soil and Water Conservation District

*Live Stakes Workshop*; Apr 5, 12PM; North Royalton, Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District

*Drop-by: Dazzling Dandelions*; Apr 5, 1PM; Brecksville Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks

*Native Plants: It Takes a City*; Apr 9, 12PM; Virtual, Cleveland Audubon

*Native Plant Nursery Panel and Happy Hour*; Apr 9, 5PM; Peninsula, Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park

*Garden to the Max: Joyful, Visionary, Maximalist Design by Teresa Woodard*; Apr 9, 1PM; Parma-Snow Branch Cuyahoga Public Library, Western Reserve Land Conservancy

*Ask the Naturalist Hour*; Apr 12, 1PM; Brecksville Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks

*Drop-by: Spring Wildflowers*; Apr 13, 10AM; Brecksville Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks

*Spring 2025 Tree Planting - Inez Killingsworth*; Apr 16, 9AM; Cleveland, Western Reserve Land Conservancy

*Spring 2025 Tree Planting - Fannie Lewis Park I*; Apr 19, 9AM; Cleveland, Western Reserve Land Conservancy

*Live Stakes Workshop*; Apr 19, 12PM; Wellington, Erie Conservation District and Lorain County Conservation District

*Afternoon Exploration*; Apr 24, 2PM; Mill Stream Run Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks

*Adam's and Haley's Run Cleanup*; Apr 25, 9:30AM; Akron, Western Reserve Land Conservancy

*Spring 2025 Tree Planting - Hyacinth Park*; Apr 26, 9AM; Cleveland, Western Reserve Land Conservancy

*A Guide to: Spring Wildflower Identification*; Apr 26, 10AM; Bedford Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks

Locking her up so she doesn't go out and buy any more plants



## Plant History

Despite the name, Sneezeweed is not a common allergen, as the pollen is sticky and distributed by insect, not wind. Sneezeweed's common name actually comes from the historical use of the crushed, dried leaves and flower heads to make a snuff that induced sneezing. This was believed to ward off evil spirits or treat colds.

Sneezeweed is native to North America and is part of the aster family. It is also known as Helen's flower, bitterweed, autumn sneezeweed and false sunflower.

While a fantastic resource for pollinators, all parts of the plant are toxic to humans and livestock when ingested in large quantities.



### 2025 Hostesses

April 10	Marlene Helm Paul Helm Pauline Dey
June 12	Laurie Siebert Rosanne Radziewicz
September 11	Pat Cotsman Mary Ellen Isaac Debbie Apple
November 13	Donna Hessel Denise Bowler Nathalie Petri
December 11	Cheryl Schmidt Anne Morrison Marlene Winter Sung Gullifer

"I just need a few things  
at the garden center"



**The Newsletter deadline is always the 25th of the month.**

Please email articles to [amorrison05@icloud.com](mailto:amorrison05@icloud.com) to Anne Morrison. Gardening tips, websites to browse, and recipes always welcome.



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